

BOYLSTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting – September 16, 2021

Present: Judy Bottom, David Bottom, Bruce Filgate, Nancy Filgate, & Judy Haynes. **Absent:** David Cole.

Meeting called to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Bruce Filgate called the meeting to order at the Historic Town Hall, wearing masks for extra protection due to the COVID variant still active. Bruce asked for approval of the August minutes. August minutes were read, one change will be made, then seconded, and accepted.

Treasurer: Nancy advised we still have plenty of money in the budget as little has been spent since this is the start of the budget year. The Commission expects an air conditioner bill, and has received a water and electric bill to pay.

Update on Commission Projects:

- Nancy reported that the Town Master Planners are now pursuing the survey objectives and a new survey is going out with a November 1st deadline – how do we envision the future of the town.
- Boylston Artifact Project. New intern Isabella Uva is working on sorting, numbering, photographing and putting items in an orderly fashion so they will be easily found.
- Elmwood Farm. Judy H. is working on finding information on the farm. She has transcribed a set of George Wright notes and deeds information, but they need to be analyzed. She is also reviewing old Town Reports for Flagg information on the farm.
- Civil War Veterans Project. Researchers have a few more veterans to research and narratives to write up. The Commissioners voted to approve helping to pay for the publication that results from this.
- Boylston Cemetery Research Consortium – Bruce has received 390 outside contributions, 239 edits, added 274 photos and managed 3,446 memorials.

Reports & Collaboration:

- The Society expects to have a newsletter out by end of month. Nancy is updating the website and adds the “Fridays Fascinating Finds” each week. We are now open Sundays by appointment. Marie Phillips keeps a calendar of anyone coming into BHSM.
- Historical District Commission – no news to report.
- Hillside Restoration Project – Judy H. reported that ‘The Discover Hillside’ events brought attention to ‘Hillside,’ but not so much to the Gough House as many people were from out of town. We hoped for more local interest in the G. House, but out of town people did encourage us to keep the restoration going. Our problem is not enough funding to continue restoring.

Historic Town Hall operation & needs:

- Contingency funding is in place should we need a new or updated furnace.
- Bruce has performed some water flushing monthly.

New Business:

- Dave Cole has not yet renewed as commissioner.
- Nancy has received a call for more information and history on the Catholic Church – something that could be used for the church's upcoming anniversary.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 21, 2021 .

Respectfully submitted,
Judith A. Haynes, Secretary
Boylston Historical Commission